

NAHS Students Create Tangible Poetry

Forty-eight North Andover High School (NAHS) Students from Chairwoman Mary Gregoire's Advance Placement eleventh grade English classes will participate in a poetry exhibit at the Stevens Memorial Library, 345 Main St., North Andover from March 1, 2011 – April 3, 2011. Poet Laureate of North Andover, Gayle C. Heney, wanted to create an opportunity for students to synthesize the oral art of poetry and visual art. The exhibit, entitled *Tangible Poetry*, is the result of her collaboration with students and NAHS teachers Mary Gregoire and Tabitha Viekman. It is partially funded by a grant Heney wrote to the North Andover Cultural Council.

"When I approached Mary Gregoire with the offer to teach students how to quickly and effortlessly begin to write poetry, she enthusiastically agreed. Her support encouraged students to think creatively, make connections between the arts and have fun."

"Art teacher Tabitha Viekman welcomed the students into her art room, helped provide materials, and encouraged students to think in reference to color and shape. She was an invaluable part of this collaboration," said Heney.

Tangible Poetry will be featured in **North Andover's National Poetry Celebration on Sunday, April 3, 2011 at 2:30 pm** in the Stevens Memorial Library's community room. Students have volunteered to speak to the process that led to the creation of their art and will read their poems. NAHS musicians will provide entertainment during the program and reception. All are welcome.